

## ***Abortion does not benefit a family.***

On the contrary, it has in general a disastrous effect on the family and its members in four specific ways.

First, in a society where abortion is accepted, children who survive to be born naturally wonder why they exist when many of their brothers and sisters were destroyed. Such children, Dr. Ney states, may suffer from guilt, from distrust regarding their future, and from carrying a heavy burden of expectation they may not be able to fill.

Since their fate once hung on their desirability, they tend to feel secure only when they are pleasing to their parents."<sup>22</sup> This is a heavy burden to carry, not all children succeed. In some cases it may lead to depression and suicide. Ney also explains that having abortions causes guilt leading to "antepartum depression that interferes with a mother's ability to bond."<sup>23</sup>

Failure to achieve bonding with the child tends to lead to child abuse, problems with subsequent pregnancies, and aversion to touching a child born later. Children who are abortion survivors, since they feel they exist only because their mothers chose them, tend to feel deeply insecure. "Since their security rests in their wantedness.... [they] keep checking. . . , 'Do you really want me?'"<sup>24</sup>

22.Ney (1983).

23.Ibid., p. 128.

24.Ibid., p. 130.

### Source:

NEY, Philip G., M.D. 1979

"Infant Abortion and Child Abuse: Cause and Effect," in Mall and Watts (1979), pp. 25-38. 1983

"A Consideration of Abortion Survivors," in Hensley (1983), pp. 123-38. Reprinted from Child Psychiatry and Human Development (n.d.).

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